

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE PATENT

In the application of:

CHANG ET AL.

Serial No. 10/017,817

Filed: December 14, 2001

For: OPHTHALMIC COMPOSITIONS FOR LUBRICATING EYES AND METHODS

FOR MAKING AND USING SAME

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Title

Date

Group Art Unit: 1614

Examiner: Fay, Zohreh A.

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

This is in response to the Examiner's communication mailed March 25, 2003, which included a restriction requirement.

Restriction has been required between the Group I Claims, claims 1-34, drawn to ophthalmic compositions; and Group II claims, claims 35-40, drawn to methods of treating an eye comprising using such compositions and methods of making such compositions. Applicant provisionally elects the Group I claims, claims 1-34. However, applicant traverses the restriction requirement.

As noted above, the Group I claims are directed to ophthalmic compositions. The Group II claims are directed to methods for using such compositions and methods for making such compositions.

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All the present claims are thus closely related to each other. In particular, a search regarding the patentability of the Group I claims would be substantially coextensive with a search regarding the Group II claims. Thus, the Patent and Trademark Office is placed under no undue burden in considering all of the present claims in the above-identified application.

In view of the above, applicant respectfully requests that the restriction requirement be withdrawn and that all of the present claims, that is claims 1-40, be considered in the above-identified application.

Respectfully submitted,

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